



BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF GEORGIA

A PROCLAMATION

PET SAFETY IN HOT WEATHER AWARENESS MONTH

- WHEREAS: Pets have provided companionship to individuals and families for centuries, offering guardians love, loyalty and an improved sense of well-being; and
- WHEREAS: Many pet owners mistakenly believe animals can be confined both comfortably and safely in unattended vehicles. However, leaving an unaccompanied pet in a car may result in dangerous health consequences or even the sudden death of an animal; and
- WHEREAS: The internal temperature of a motor vehicle rises quickly, even in the cooler months. When the outside temperature exceeds 72 degrees, a car's internal temperature can reach 116 degrees within an hour. When the outside temperature rises to 80 degrees, a car generates an internal temperature of 99 degrees within 10 minutes. Rolling down car windows has proven ineffective in attempting to lower the internal temperature of a vehicle; and
- WHEREAS: Animals have a higher body temperature than humans and often cool themselves by panting. However, approximately 35 percent humidity may slow or shut down an animal's ability to evaporate moisture and control body temperature; and
- WHEREAS: Each year, thousands of pets succumb to heatstroke following confinement in hot and unattended motor vehicles. Law enforcement officials strive to take the necessary steps to help those animals left unattended in vehicles, and citizens are asked to plan ahead when bringing a pet in the car, especially during months of warmer weather; and
- WHEREAS: Citizens and organizations across the state are working to ensure all animals are attended to and cared for in a safe and proper manner by raising awareness of the dangers of leaving a pet unattended in a vehicle for any period of time; now
- THEREFORE: I, NATHAN DEAL, Governor of the State of Georgia, do hereby proclaim June 2017 as PET SAFETY IN HOT WEATHER AWARENESS MONTH in Georgia.

In witness thereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the Executive Department to be affixed this 10th day of April in the year of our Lord two thousand seventeen.



Nathan Deal
GOVERNOR

ATTEST

Chris W. Riley
CHIEF OF STAFF